Serial No.: 09/991,262
Filed: November 20, 2001

Prior to examination, please amend the referenced patent application as follows. The amendment to the specification is made to comply with requirements for patent applications containing nucleotide sequence and/or amino acid sequence disclosures in adherence with rules 37 C.F.R. § 1.821-1.825:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 86, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A1

For engineering the multiple cloning site, pART27 was cut with SpeI and NotI. Ten picomoles of each of the two oligos whose sequence follows (TOP and BOTTOM) were annealed in 10 microlitres of water (heated to 80°C for 2 min and allowed to cool slowly to room temperature). The sticky ends on these annealed oligonucleotides allowed the insert to be cloned into pART27 (giving pART27mod) as described in Example No. 3 and 9.

Sequence of oligonucleotide:

TOP: 5'-GGCCGCTTAATTAAGGATCCGGCGCGCCA-3' (SEQ ID NO: 54)

BOTTOM: 3'-CGAATTAATTCCTAGGCCGCGCGGTGATC-5' (SEQ ID NO: 55)

Please replace the paragraph starting on page 86, line 26 with the following rewritten paragraph:

A2

(The PacI recognition sequence is TTAATTAA ,SEQ ID NO: 56 and that for AscI is GGCGCGCC, SEQ ID NO: 57). A 4kbp SalI fragment from plasmid pART27mod (containing the right border, lacZ marker (+multiple cloning site)nptII gene for kanamycin resistance under control of the *nos* promoter and polyadenylation signal and the left border) was cloned into the 13kbp vector pKT231 linearised with XhoI. Plasmid pKT231 carries the IncQ origin of replication for the host